

GAVILAN COLLEGE FACULTY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Friends,
My first and most important message is to ask unit members to please fill out the survey monkey negotiations survey so we can have as broad an idea as possible of members' priorities as we prepare for the 2012 negotiations cycle. We're still talking about part time rehire/seniority systems, a holdover from last year, but there are fourteen other issues to be discussed and ranked. Please help! If you lost the address or need it again, feel free to drop me an email. This is one of the most important opportunities you have to get genuine representation from your union--please use it! Deadline is noon on Monday October 24. (If you have not joined, you still can do so by filling out a membership form available from Laura Guardino).

Other than that, we have a lot of balls in the air!

--We are closing in on a solution for part-timers' mail boxes. We hope it will be a good one.

--We are getting advice from our CCA-retained attorney regarding back sick leave, both its accumulation and the back period eligible for coverage now. More soon.

--We are collecting home email addresses to be used sparingly and infrequently, when it matters, on questions of union significance. Have you sent yours to me at lhalper@garlic.com? Please do!

--We are opening a dialogue with our non-credit program faculty to hear about their priorities and concerns.

--And GCFA is working with the Faculty Senate to prepare to participate in the 2011-12 version of a college Budget Reduction Task Force. In the past, this group has come together with representation from all constituents when economic difficulties loomed. On October 11, College President Steve Kinsella presented the District Board with a proposal to eliminate the Child Development Center. The building, he proposes, could

HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR GAVILAN PAY WORKSHOP

By popular demand, the GCFA will be hosting an hour-long workshop on maximizing your Gavilan pay--how to read and climb the salary schedule, how to do the flex and co-curricular activities required, how to use sick leave, and any other items related to maximizing your pay at Gavilan. Full-time and part-time faculty are invited alike.

When: Tuesday October 25 and Weds. October 26 at 2:30 p.m.

Who: You, and union leaders who helped negotiate various pay and leave provisions.

Where: Mayock House

Why: Understanding how to increase your salary is the single biggest thing you can do to help your paycheck, though there are other actions you can take that can also help!

What: informal talk with light refreshments.

Become Student Services space. Many parents, staff, and faculty spoke against the proposal. The GCFA, which at this point is neutral on the proposal, formally asked the Board to consider six questions it had about the proposal (read them at www.gavfaculty.com) and particularly pushed for a speedy convocation of the

Task Force. Such a Task Force has a hard job, but when faculty, staff, and students join administrators at the table, everyone has the same starting point and there is a better chance we can find some workable solutions. Please make checking www.gavfaculty.com a regular habit. There's lots of important information there, and

bookmarking it might be a good idea. Leah Halper, GCFA President

PS: Congratulations to unit members Enrique Luna and Lindsay Padilla for being part of Stanford SPICE program grant to bring human rights education to the classroom!

SOCIAL EVENTS

November 15th: Learn ravioli making with Lisa Franklin 2 p.m., see a great Italian film with introduction by Grant Richards 4 p.m., ravioli dinner to follow at Mayock House. All faculty welcome--please RSVP to Sabrina Lawrence, slawrence@gavilan.edu.

December 12th: Baker extraordinaire Mary Petron Bottega will cater a High Tea on the afternoon of Dec. 12, and our favorite Brit (well, his parents are British and his sister works for BBC) Dave Ellis will be on hand to say goodbye as he prepares to retire. Don't miss a chance to share a scone and a story with everyone's favorite guy!

NEGOTIATIONS TEAM 2012

Thanks to Rob Overson, Lindsay Padilla, Marlene Bumgarner, and Kimberly Smith for volunteering to do this important work. Special thanks to Marc Turetzky and Jason Wolowitz, who are rotating off the team. Jason is joining the Rep Council as his department's representative, so we'll continue to benefit from his expertise.

A NOTE FROM JOE NAVARRO

Dear Friends,

I have been trying to summarize my experiences from my short tenure as a school board trustee. If you are interested and you have time please click on this link to read my thoughts about it <http://maestrojoe.weebly.com/1/post/2011/10/lessons-from-being-a-school-board-trustee.html>. I hope there are useful lessons for other education activists who are weighing the possibility of running for school board. Thank you. --Joe Navarro